FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

28 FEBRUARY 1984

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi aircraft delivered "destructive blows" against a number of oil tankers anchored in the Khark Island zone on 27 February before returning safely to base, a spokesman for the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command announced in a statement broadcast by Baghdad radio. This "strong blow" begins the first day of a "siege" Iraq has decided to impose on this area, a region it earlier declared would be considered a zone of war operations, the spokesman added. All oil tankers and ships were again warned against approaching the Khark Island zone or any other Iranian port as Iraq will not bear responsibility for any losses sustained by those who ignore such warnings. Iraq will continue to strike at all Iranian targets until the "regime of evil and aggression" agrees to UN Security Council resolutions to stop the war, the spokesman stated.

A "well-informed" Iranian source at Khark Island cited by IRNA called the "alleged" Iraqi attacks against oil tankers docked at the island "imaginary" and having "no foundations." Such "lies" are aimed at covering up Baghdad's military defeats in the Khaybar operations, the source added. Loading continues "as usual" on the island, a "senior military spokesman" asserted to AFP on 28 February.

Meanwhile, Iranian forces "fully destroyed" two Iraqi brigades and partially destroyed a third in an "extensive lightning" attack on enemy positions south of Majnun and northeast of An-Nashwah, Iranian military communiques carried by Tehran radio on 27 February reported. More than 4,500 Iraqi troops were killed or wounded in these recent attacks, raising the enemy casualty toll since the start of the Khaybar operations to more than 11,500. Three Iraqi planes were also shot down in the Khaybar operational sector on 27 February, bringing the total number of Iraqi planes downed since the beginning of the Khaybar operations to six, one communique added.

The Iraqi Armed Forces General Command communique, broadcast by Baghdad radio on 27 February, reported successes by the III and IV Army Corps in their respective operational sectors, including the killing of 2,059 Iranian troops and the destruction of seven Iranian helicopters. One Iranian plane was also shot down east of Basra on 26 February, the communique added. A "successful surprise" attack carried out by Iraqi forces against Iranian troops east of Basra achieved "positive results," INA reported.

Lebanon

Political Situation — A Lebanese envoy is expected to visit Damascus shortly to finalize the agenda for a Lebanese-Syrian summit meeting this weekend, Beirut radio announced on 28 February. Opposition sources cited by the radio said the Lebanese Cabinet must abrogate the 17 May Lebanese-Israeli agreement before the summit meeting, and AFP likewise reported a statement by "authoritative sources" that President Amin al-Jumayyil will officially abrogate the agreement "within 48 hours." Citing "diplomatic sources," the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon disclosed that Saudi Arabia arranged the forthcoming summit meeting, at which the Lebanese and Syrian presidents will establish "principles and details" for a political solution, including resolution of the 17 May agreement issue, and also arrange the phased withdrawal of Syrian forces on a separate basis from the Israeli presence or withdrawal.

In another development, the Syrian deputy foreign minister met with the northern opposition leaders Sulayman Franjiyah and Rashid Karami while another Syrian envoy delivered messages to Amal movement leader Nabih Birri and Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) officials in Beirut, according to Beirut and Voice of Lebanon radios. The clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio said Birri and the PSP officials received a detailed message from PSP leader Walid Junblatt, who has held "intensive contacts and consultations" in Damascus since his return there from Amman.

Military Situation — The Lebanese Army deployed in positions vacated by the U.S. Marines at Beirut airport, according to Beirut radio. In southern Lebanon,two Israeli soldiers were wounded in anattack on an IDF position in Sidon, the Tel Aviv paper *HATZOFE* disclosed.

Palestinian-Jordanian Talks

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat held a closed meeting with Jordan's King Husayn in An-Nadwah Palace and later headed the Palestinian side in talks with Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat and other Jordanian officials, according to PETRA-JNA and Amman television. The discussions were held in an atmosphere of "brotherhood and complete frankness," the television said, and focused on the principle of asserting independent Palestinian decisionmaking, on strengthening the PLO's legitimacy, and on defining a unified position. 'Arafat also met with various Palestinian delegations and personalities from Jordan, including PNC members, Amman radio reported.

Commenting on the Jordanian-Palestinian talks, Amman radio said they will center on creating the best formula for relations between the Jordanian and Palestinian people and on establishing a joint basis for any move in the Arab and international arenas. Meanwhile, Damascus radio continued Syria's criticism of the talks, linking them with Husayn's recent visit to Washington and with 'Arafat's alleged secret contacts with the U.S. administration prior to the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. The radio said the talks will focus on reaching an agreement within the framework of the Reagan plan and claimed that Jordan will approve stationing 'Arafat's forces on its soil for use "as part of the Jordanian rapid intervention force."

Israel

Two hand grenades exploded in a Jerusalem clothing shop, injuring 21 people, Jerusalem radio reported on 28 February. The police have detained a number of people in connection with theincident, the Jerusalem police commander stated in remarks broadcast by the radio. AFP reported the the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine claimed credit for the attack in a communique issued in Damascus.

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AFP: India-Pakistan Talks Likely in April, May

BK281257 Hong Kong AFP in English 1251 GMT 28 Feb 84

[Text] New Delhi, Feb 28 (AFP) — India and Pakistan are likely to hold talks in April or May in Islamabad on their proposal for a friendship treaty and non-aggression pact, the Foreign Secretary M.K. Rasgotra indicated here today.

Mr. Rasgotra, the top official in the Foreign Ministry, and his Pakistani counterpart Niaz Naik, who is here to attend the South Asian Regional Cooperation (SARC) meeting, will have informal exchanges of views on the state of relations between the two countries at Udaipur in Rajasthan State on Thursday and Friday.

Mr. Naik told the press that he would stay on one or two days after the SARC meeting for an informal but "in depth" exchange of views with Mr. Rasgotra on the "totality of Indo-Pakistan relations."

"The idea is really to sit together and to find ways and means of how to give further impetus to the process of normalisation of relations between the two countries and how to make progress on some of the very substantive and outstanding issues such as our proposal for a non-aggression pact and Indian proposal for friendship treaty," Mr. Naik was quoted as saying.

President Condemns Disrespect to Constitution

BK271611 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 27 Feb 84

[Text] The president, Giani Zail Singh, has strongly condemned the disrespect shown to the Constitution by some Akali leaders today. Describng them as misguided Sikhs, the president felt anguish at the act of sacrilege and said that the Constitution is a sacred document for all Indians. This act, he said, belittled the sacrifices made by Sikh martyrs in the cause of the country's freedom and integrity. Reports say that the president made last minute efforts to prevent the action.

The leaders of the Akali Dal, Tara Singh group, Jathedar Rachpal Singh, said the act was unforunate and unnecessary. This only complicates matters.

Former air chief marshal, Mr Arjan Singh, said he was very sad as a Sikh because some Sikh leaders have dishonored the Constitution.

Reports on Arrests of Akali Dal Members

5 in Ludhiana

BK280754 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 28 Feb 84

[Text] In Ludhiana, five Akali Dal volunteers were arrested this morning for showing disrespect to the Constitution. They were arrested on charges of insulting the national honor.

27 in Punjab

BK280921 Hong Kong AFP in English 0916 GMT 28 Feb 84

[Text] New Delhi, Feb 28 (AFP) — Twenty-seven Sikh militants were arrested in Punjab today for burning pages of the national Constitution outside five government offices, PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) reported. Those arrested were members of the Sikh political party, the Akali Dal, which is leading a campaign for greater autonomy in the northern state. Nine Sikh leaders were arrested in New Delhi and Chandigarh, the joint capital of Punjab and neighbouring Haryana State, for carrying out a similar protest yesterday. In response, the Akali Dal called on volunteers to repeat the action.

PTI said that burnings of a section of India's Constitution which equates the Sikh religion with Hinduism took place outside the offices of deputy commissioners at five district headquarters. Quoting officials at Chandigarh, PTI said that seven volunteers were arrested at Gurdaspur, five each at Amritsar, Ludhiana, Sangrur and Faridkot. They were charged with insulting national honour.

Home Minister Comments on Punjab Situation

BK281352 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 28 Feb 84

[Text] The home minister has said that terrorism and violence will not be allowed to have a premium in resolving disputes. He said this in a statement on the situation in Punjab and Haryana read out in the Rajya Sabha today by the minister of state for home affairs, Mr Vekatasubbiah. Regretting that violence has been deliberately engineered to create bitterness and distrust between Hindus and Sikhs, Mr Sethi declared that the government will take every possible step to stamp it out ruthlessly whatever the cost. Action has already been taken to strengthen and streamline the law and order machinery in Punjab. Strict instructions have been issued to deal with violence with utmost firmness whether it occurs in Punjab, Haryana, or elsewhere.

Mr Sethi said the display of disrespect to the Constitution by the Akalis has shocked the entire nation. Instead of seeking an amendment of Article 25 [putting Sikhs under Hindu religion] through Constitutional means, the Akalis have resorted to a program of burning a part of the Constitution.

The home minister recalled that the government has always expressed its readiness for a settlement through negotiations. It was in this spirit that it had invited opposition leaders for the tripartite talks. The main issues discussed at these talks earlier this month related to territories. Some useful suggestions had emerged. In the meantime, communal violence broke out in Punjab and it was decided to adjourn the meeting for a short interval. The expectation was that it will be resumed after 3 or 4 days. The government learned with regret the reported Akali decision not to participate further in the talks.

Amritsar Curfew Extended, Teacher Killed

BK271627 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 27 Feb 84

[Text] In Punjab, curfew in Amritsar City has been extended till Friday morning. However, the relaxation period has been increased from 2 to 12 hours from 0600 to 1800. In Jullundur, the curfew will continue till Wenesday morning with a 12-hour relaxation.

Some unidentified men shot dead a school teacher at Faridkot today. Five advocates of Motabar today went on a day long fast in protest against the killings in Punjab and Haryana. Citizens in Bhatinda have decided to form nonofficial peace committees to preserve communal harmony.

The general secretary of the Communist Party of India, Mr Rajeshwara Rao, has urged Sant Longowal and other Akali leaders to realize the responsibility at this critical juncture. He told newsmen in Ludhiana that innocent people have become victims of the violence.

The Haryana chief minister, Mr Bhajan Lal, has expressed satisfaction over the law and order situation in the state. He said in Chandigarh that no untoward incident has been reported during the last 8 days. He appealed to the people to continue to maintain peace.

The Jammu and Kashmir chief minster, Dr Farooq Abdullah, has said that the prime minister's hands should be strengthened to solve the Punjab tangle. Inaugurating a primary health program at (Bisna) near Jammu this evening, he said all parties irrespective of their political ideologies must raise their voice against the violence in Punjab and Haryana.

President's Tour of Northeast States Postponed

BK280339 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 28 Feb 84

[Text] The President Giani Zail Singh's 6-day tour of the northeastern states from Thursday has been postponed. This was officially stated in New Delhi.

Delhi Strike Described as 'Peaceful, Total'

BK271615 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 27 Feb 84

[Text] The strike called in Delhi today by the Bharatiya Janata Party [BJP] to protest against the killings in Punjab and Haryana was peaceful. Most shops were closed. In some localities it was the weekly closed day for the markets. Vehicular traffic, including buses, scooters, and taxis, were plying normally although traffic was less in some areas. Banks and offices were open. Work was going on in the industrial area in Okhla.

But the president of the Delhi Pradesh [state] BJP, Mr Kedar Nath Sahani, claimed that industrial establishments in West Delhi remained closed. He described the strike as total.

The police had made adequate arrangements to maintain law and order.

Electronics, Computer Protocol Signed With USSR

BK271413 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 27 Feb 84

[Text] India and the Soviet Union have agreed to strengthen bilateral cooperation in electronics and computer technology. As a first step, India will export computer programs and electronic items to the Soviet Union worth 40 million rupees during this year and the next. A protocol for this was signed by the deputy minister for the radio industry of the Soviet Union, Mr N.V. Gorshkov, and the deputy minister for electronics, Mr Sanjeevi Rao, in New Delhi today.

The Electronic Trade and Technology Development Corporation will be the main agency for export and import of all electronic items, while another public sector undertaking — Computer Maintenance Corp — will deal with import, installation, and related matters of computers from the Soviet Union.

The first of the three Soviet computers for engineering college in Allahabad, Durgapur, and Warangal is expected in May this year.

President Ziaul Haq Holds News Conferences

Islamabad, 25 February

BK260931 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 25 Feb 84

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has said he has found a great scope for cooperation between Pakistan and Brunei Darussalam in the fields of eucation, trade, and technology. Addressing a news conference on his return to Islamabad from Brunei Darussalam this afternoon, he said Pakistan could offer facilities of higher education, particularly in the technical and professional fields, for students from that country. There would soon be an exchange of visits which will be mutually beneficial. The president said the Government and the people of Brunei Darussalam had the same feelings of friendship, brotherhood, and cooperation that the people of Pakistan had for them. He said Brunei Darussalam has set itself on the course of Islamization and in this sphere both countries could learn from each other.

Referring to his meetings with some world leaders, he said they had useful exchange of views on bilateral matters and international issues.

The president made a special mention to the escalation in the Iran-Iraq war, and said it had greatly disturbed him. It posed a serious threat to the region in which other countries might also become involved and affect the security and stability of the whole region. He stressed that Pakistan on its part had all along been calling for an end to the fighting and for an equitable settlement of the conflict which was a matter of great anguish for the entire Muslim world.

In reply to a question, the president said no decision has yet been taken as to whether the elections in the country will be held on party or nonparty basis.

Replying to a question about the nominated members in the new legislature, the president said he had no specific plan as yet. In his speech on August 12 he had explained that it might be possible to have a few technocrats in the house other than electedmembers. However, he added, no firm policy had yet been formulated in this regard.

Answering questions about the banning of politically motivated students' organizations, the president said this question should be viewed in the context of his political program. He said 1984 is an important year and could be termed as the election year in which we may hold at least one election. We want to complete the entire process of election by March next year, and for this it is imperative that the country should have complete harmony. It was in this context and after due consideration that the students' organizations were banned with a view to eliminating politics from universities and colleges. An alternative system for promoting extracurricular activities for students has already been provided. The student community on their part should give this system a chance which will ensure a clean and politics-free scope for their activities. The students, he emphasized, were the custodians of the future of the country for which they must prepare themselves. Their first and foremost duty was to acquire knowledge. The president said he had the interest of the students dear to his heart and would never think of any harm to them. If there was any case of maltreatment of students, severe action will be taken against those responsible. He said there had been some arrests of students who had taken the law in their hands. But he gave the assurance that all such cases will be reviewed and a lenient view will be taken. He advised the students to help the government in completing the process of elections in a peaceful atmosphere.

Replying to a question about the recent interview of Mr Rajiv Gandhi with the BBC, alleging military preparations by Pakistan, the president said Pakistan believed in peace and security and wanted to live in peace with India. Pakistan, he said, was actually engaged in a peace offensive. The two countries should strive to promote a friendly atmosphere. They should not have fear of any danger from each other. The president said he had not seen the official version of what had been said, but such statements, if made, do pollute the atmosphere.

The president was given a hearty send-off when he left Brunei Darussalam for Pakistan today. Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah Muizuddin, his father and three brothers, as well as other leading members of Brunei royal family were present to bid him farewell.

KHALEEJ TIMES Report

GF261546 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 26 Feb 84 p 20

[By correspondent]

[Excerpts] Islamabad — President Ziaul Haq yesterday expressed deep concern over sudden escalation in the Gulf war and feared that outside powers might get involved in the conflict if the present situation was allowed to persist.

Such a development would irreparably undermine peace and stability in the entire region, President Zia observed adding that Pakistan was prepared to take part in any conciliation effort if both parties so desired.

Addressing a press conference on return from Brunei, where he attended independence celebrations, President Zia said through the war situation was still not very clear, reports indicate it is expanding. He said the entire Muslim world in general and Pakistan in particular was pained at the continuation and escalation of war. Pakistan on its own and as a member of the ummah peace committee, set up by the Islamic Conference Organisation, has been taking part in efforts to bring an end to the war. If both parties so desire we are prepared to join any conciliation effort, President Zia said, adding that Pakistan was deeply concerned as Iran is its neighbour and with Iraq Pakistan has historical relations.

When a reporter referred to a statement by Rajiv Gandhi, son of Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, that India was apprehending an attack from Pakistan in the near future, the President said Pakistan wanted to live in peace with all its neighbours, particularly India with whom it was engaged in a peace offensive. He said Pakistan did not expect any attack from India while it was unthinkable that it could pose any threat to India because there

was no comparison between the two in the military strengths. It is not the intention but the capacility to wage a war that counts, President Zia said, adding that Pakistan was not in competition with India in acquiring military might.

He regretted Mr Rajiv Gandhi's statement and said it could only pollute the atmosphere.

On Pakistani workers' rush to Brunei in search of jobs, he said most reports were exaggerated which have undermined the prestige of the country. The government would take strict action against travel agents who have defrauded innocent people on promise of settling them in Brunei, he added.

Asked to comment on a statement made by chairman of his nominated Majlis-e-Shoora, Khwaja Safdar, that a decision on non-party elections has already been taken by his government, President Zia said Safdar was not his government's spokesman. Though he (Zia) personally favoured non-party elections, no decision has so far been taken at government level, he added.

Lahore, 28 February

BK280848 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 28 Feb 84

[Excerpt] President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq has said that the announcement for the date of elections will be made 3 months before the elections, and a brief period of 2 and 1/2 months will be allowed for electioneering. Talking to newsmen upon his arrival at Lahore from Islamabad this morning on a brief visit to the provincial capital, he said neat, clean, and fair elections will be held, and elected representatives will come into the fore as a result.

In reply to a question on whether elections will be held on a party or nonparty basis, the president said that there are three reports before the govenment which have been presented by the Ansari Commission, the Advisory Council committee, and the Islamic Ideology Council, and it is now for the government to decide on this matter. The decision will be announced at an appropriate time. The president said he is using the terms Western or Islamic system of government instead of party or nonparty basis.

In reply to another question, the president said some political leaders have already been released, and the release of other leaders will also be reviewed. The president said the question of authorizing the local bodies to impose taxes to create their own financial resources is completely a provincial matter.

Referring to the latest situation in the Iran-Iraq war, the president said that, as he had said earlier, it has been Pakistan's endeavor as a member of the peace committee to take steps through the Islamic Conference Organization to end the Gulf war.

President Greets Indian Leaders During Overflight

BK251548 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 25 Feb 84

[Text] The president sent a message of good will to the Indian president, Giani Zail Singh, while overflying Indian territory on his way home from Brunei Darussalam. The president extended good wishes to the Indian president and prayed for his health and the continued progress and prosperity of the Indian people.

In a separate message to the Indian prime minister, the president said: I feel great pleasure in once again extending good wishes to you while overflying Indian territory on my way back to Pakistan. My brief stay in Brunei Darussalam has reinforced my confidence that the countries and people of Southeast Asia can gain a lot by consolidating the atmosphere of mutual trust and confidence and can create a tension-free environment for the development of cooperation among themselves.

Party Leader Criticizes Student Union Ban

GF271219 Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 11 Feb 84 pp 1,8

[By special correspondent]

[Excerpts] Lahore, 10 Feb — The leader of the Jama'at-e Islami (JI), Mian Tufail Mohammad, has strongly assailed the government's decision to ban all student unions in Punjab Province. Mian Tufail Mohammad said that after imposing the ban in the Frontier Province and Islamabad on student unions, the Government of Punjab Province has now banned all student unions in all colleges and the universities within the Punjab under a clause of martial law. He said the regulation has declared all student unions illegal and has banned their activities. Mian Tufail Mohammad said he fears that similar bans will also be placed on Sind and Baluchistan Provinces soon and that such bans will only open the field to enemies of the country.

Mian Tufail Mohammad said that through union activity the students learn the lesson of democracy and constructive thinking and that they use this knowledge in later years in service of the country. Through these unions the young generation also learns the art of leadership, and unions are the field where new leaders grow. The ban imposed by the government on student unions will only close the door of progress on the young generation. The ban on open union activity will also generate underground movements which usually become the hotbed of terrorists and antinational elements.

Satellite Receiving Station Plans Approved

GF262030 Rawalpindi PAKISTAN TIMES in English 14 Feb 84 p 5

[Text] Islamabad, Feb. 13 (APP): The fifth meeting of the Executive Committee of the Space Research Council of Pakistan Space and Upper Atmosphere Research Commission

[SUPARCO] was held here yesterday under the chairmanship of the Federal Finance Minister Mr. Ghulam Ishaq Khan.

The committee approved the budget of the SUPARCO for the year 1984-85 and reviewed the progress made by the organisation since its last meeting.

The committee also approved a number of development projects of SUPARCO which include the establishment of a satellite ground receiving station at Islamabad. The project is meant for the reception of satellite remote sensing data for the identification of new natural resources as well as their optimum utilisation.

It will also be helpful in the study of economic data, research on water-logging and salinity, hydrological crop forecasting and pest infestation.

The project is estimated to cost Rs. 200 million and is expected to be operational by the end of 1985.

The committee also took a number of administrative. [sentence as published]

Security Troops Killed in Baluchistan Clash

GF251132 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 25 Feb 84 p 22

[By correspondent]

[Text] Islamabad — Four members of Pakistan Security Forces were killed in a clash with an armed Iranian Baluch group in Sunt area, about 40 km from Pakistan-Iran border in Baluchistan province on Tuesday, according to reports received here.

The group, led by Azeem and Rasool Bukhsh, opened fire when the security forces encircled it on the suspicion it was involved in illegal activities. Some other members of the group, meanwhile, attacked the security men from the rear killing four and wounding three others.

Iraqi Attacks on Khark Island Termed 'Imaginary'

LD280927 Tehran IRNA in English 0922 GMT 28 Feb 84

[Text] Tehran, Feb 28, IRNA — Alleged Iraqi attacks on oil tankers at Khark Island oil terminal are imaginary and have no foundations and such lies are aimed at covering up Baghdad's military defeats in operation Khaybar.

A well-informed source at Khark Island said this morning that there are no signs of a "successful" Iraqi air raid on oil tankers carrying Iranian crude and Iraq has gained nothing from its alleged missile attack and air raid on Khark.

He said international shipping firms have the information on all oil tankers around the world, including the Persian Gulf, and this could alone be proof of the false Iraqi claims made on Monday.

The informed source added that the Iranian Air Force had carried out extremely successful operations deep inside Iraq and they could also manage to defend the airspace in the region and the security of shipping in the Persian Gulf very easily.

"Witness to this fact is the completely normal movement of ships in the region and normal activity at Khark Island presently (?and within) the past weeks," he said.

AFP Report

NC280735 Paris AFP in English 0732 GMT 28 Feb 84

[Text] Tehran, Feb 28 (AFP) — Iran denied today that Iraq had attacked the Iranian oil terminal at Khark Island yesterday or destroyed any tankers loading there.

"We deny all Iraqi claims," a senior military spokesman told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE. He added "It is all lies as the shipping companies know very well."

The spokesman added that loading was continuing as usual at Khark today.

Tehran has repeatedly warned that attacks on its oil exports would draw touch reprisals, and has threatened to close the Strait of Hormuz, blocking the main oil route to the west.

AFP: Reports 'Cast Doubt' on Khark Bombing

NC281220 PARIS AFP in English 1212 GMT 28 Feb 84

[Text] London, Feb 28 (AFP) — Information reaching London shipping circles today appeared to cast doubt on claims that Iraqi jets had succeeded in bombing Iran's Khark oil terminal.

The Norwegian supertanker *Berger King*, in a radio message to its London charterers, said there had been no Iraqi bombardment yesterday and that the terminal was operating normally. The ship's captain said the *Berger King* would leave Khark late today if loading was completed before nightfall.

Another shipping broker said the 340,000-ton tanker *Wind Eagle* left the mouth of the Gulf this morning as scheduled, sailing for Khark. Two Japanese tankers were reported to have left Khark yesterday without incident.

There was a conflicting account from Madrid, however, where one Spanish captain reported he had witnessed a "spectacular bombardment" as his vessel was headed towards the terminal. But the ship was not identified and was said to have been located more than 150 KMS (100 miles) from Khark at the time of the message.

Earlier today a Lloyds spokesman said the maritime insurance firm had received no information that would confirm an Iraqi attack.

IRNA: Iraqi Planes Drop Chemical Bombs

GF271738 Tehran IRNA in English 1720 GMT 27 Feb 84

[Text] Ahvaz, Feb. 27, IRNA — As a result of Iraqi chemical bombings, a large number of Iranian Muslim combatants and civilians have suffered wounds in their eyes and other parts of their body and are being treated at hospitals in Khuzestan Province.

A number of them told IRNA here that Iraqi planes in several raids dropped chemical bombs near the southern region of the Khaybar operational region at about nine p.m. (local time) Sunday.

Reports received here said that Iraqi planes dropped more chemical bombs in the middle regions of the Khaybar operational theatre this morning, but there have been no reports of casualties so far.

The Iraqi regime has increasingly resorted to chemical weaponry over the past months. The last Iraqi chemical attack was on Khorramshahr on February 15, which injured three civilians.

In another attack on October 26, about 100 to 150 civilians in two rural areas near Baneh in Kordestan Province, were injured by chemical explosives.

Last week an informed military source warned of the likelihood of further Iraqi chemical attacks following Iraqi threats broadcast by Baghdad radio that its forces would use drugs that will destroy man.

'Largest Yet' Chemical Attack

LD280938 Tehran IRNA in English 0929 GMT 28 Feb 84

[Text] Khatim ol-Anbiya' HQ., Feb 28, IRNA — Reports reaching Tehran from the battle front said Tuesday morning that the Iraqi regime, after suffering an intense defeat inflicted by the Islamic combatants of Iran, has deployed chemical bombs over a wide area, to the extent that the battle field is polluted.

The Iraqi enemy, after each defeat in the fronts, has resorted in the past few months to the deployment of chemical bombs and more so doing in the past two days, causing membrane irritation, skin burns and mental disorders. [as received]

At present over 400 of those wounded in this inhuman Iraqi measure are hospitalised in Susangerd and Ahvaz.

Monday night's chemical attack of the Iraqi regime in the Al-'Uzayr region is the largest one yet in the 41-month old Iraqi imposed war, even more extensive than the chemical bombings which left 400 martyrs and wounded in the past two days.

The type of the chemical weapon deployed in Monday night's attack has not yet been determined.

Red Cross Invited To Visit Chemical Bombing Victims

LD281115 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 28 Feb 84

[Text] Our country's Ministry of Foreign Affairs today sent a note inviting the representative of the International Red Cross Committee in Tehran to visit those wounded and injured in yesterday's chemical bombings by the criminal regime of Iraq on the southern fronts of the country. IRNA reports that as of noon today there has been no word on the acceptance of the invitation by the Red Cross. It is not yet clear how the Red Cross is going to deal with its main responsibility.

The Red Cross is informed in the Foreign Ministry letter that a number of those wounded are being hospitalized in Tehran and a large number are still in hospitals in southern cities.

It is noteworthy that the chemical bombings by the criminals of the Ba'thist regime of Iraq, repeated yesterday in the Khaybar operation region, have poisoned several combatants of Islam.

Joint Operations Center Issues Communiques

Communique No 15

LD271717 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Feb 84

[Communique No 15 of Khatim ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, joint operations center of Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Verily we have granted you a decisive victory. [Koranic verse] The epic-making heroes of the Islamic Revolution, continuing their victorious Khaybar operations, last night in an extensive lightning attack against enemy positions in the south of Majnun Islands, northeast of An-Nashwah, succeeded in achieving considerable victories and delivering heavy blows to the Zionist enemy. Following these successful operations, the 27th Mechanized Brigade of the 1st Division and the 56th Armored Brigade of the 5th Mechanized Division of the Armed Forces of the Zionist Iraqi regime were 100 percent destroyed and 80 percent of their 501st Infantry Brigade was also destroyed.

Since last night in the heroic offensive of our blasphemy-fighting combatants against the Zionist enemy, more than 4,500 other members of the defeated Iraqi Armed Forces were killed or wounded. Thus, the total number of enemy killed or wounded since the beginning of the victorious Khaybar operations has exceeded 11,500. Also, 65 enemy tanks and personnel carriers and a large number of their vehicles were set on fire and destroyed by the fighters of Islam and 20 tanks and personnel carriers were also captured intact by our forces.

Today, three enemy aircraft were shot down in the Khaybar operational sector. Thus, the number of enemy aircraft shot down since the beginning of the Khaybar operations in this region reached six.

At the moment, heavy clashes are continuing in the operational region between the fighters of Islam and the enemy and the self-sacrificing forces of Islam continue to inflict heavy blows to the forces of the Zionist regime.

Amid the victories of the fighters of the monotheistic front, the hezbollahi nation, while expressing its gratitude to Almighty God, also prays for the final victory of the Muslim fighters on all the fronts.

[Signed] Khatim Ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, joint operations center of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Communique No 16

LD281123 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 28 Feb 84

[Communique No 16 of Khatim ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, center of joint operations of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran and Islamic Revolution Guards Corps]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Last night in continuation of Operation Khaybar, the pagan-fighting combatants of the forces of monotheism, in a brave battle, inflicted another heavy defeat on the Zionist regime's forces, despite the fact that the Zionist enemy had utilized all his facilities to prevent the continuation of the operations of the combatants of Islam in the Al-'Uzayr sector. During that operation, the combatants of Islam killed or injured more than 500 and captured 100 enemy soldiers. A group of enemy forces surrendered to our forces. Fire by the forces of Islam also destroyed 30 enemy tanks and personnel carriers.

Following this heavy defeat and after the enemy had fully realized its inability to withstand the combatants of Islam on the battlefield, the Zionist enemy extended the use of chemical weapons in that sector. So, in addition to chemical bombardment yesterday, contrary to all international conventions, the enemy resorted this morning to the use of chemical weapons on a wide scale in the Al-'Uzayr sector, polluting with chemicals that sector and its villages. Following this savage act by the Zionist regime, the combatants of Islam quickly took defensive, antichemical-warfare measures. The combatants poisoned as a result of this criminal act were transferred to hospitals for treatment; fortunately, they were quickly treated and most of them have returned to their service positions.

In the sector south of the Majnun Islands, during a heavy battle, the combatants of Islam killed or injured more than 200 enemy troops and destroyed more than 20 enemy tanks and personnel carriers.

The battle continues against the Zionist enemy. With unprecedented bravery, the combatants of Islam are dealing heavy blows to the feeble enemy.

[Signed] Khatim ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, center of joint operations of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

More Than 800 POW's Evacuated From Front

GF251810 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 25 Feb 84

[Text] More than 800 Iraqi POW's from the Khaybar operations were evacuated today to the rear. The POW's included a group of soldiers from the Armies of Egypt, Sudan, and Morocco, who were forced to join the fronts of the imposed war at the request of the ruling regime in Iraq.

Nateq-Nuri: We Have To Return Groups of Fighters

GF280615 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 27 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Ceremonies to mark the beginning of the work of the Islamic Revolution Committee's air unit began in Tehran today. Many Islamic Revolution Committees members, including Islamic revolutionary guards, participated in this event.

During the ceremonies, Nateq-Nuri, minister of interior and general commander of the Islamic Revolution Committees, congratulated the heros of Islam on the recent victories during the Khaybar operations. He said a new page has been opened on the war fronts. He added that our soldiers, as in the first days of the war, have entered the battle with enthusiasm and determination. He said that many forces had been sent to the fronts, but that the fronts could not assimilate all of them so we have to return groups of fighters to where they came from.

The minister of interior praised the sacrifices of Air Force and Airborne troops during the Khaybar operations. He reiterated that all measures which have been stipulated by the Islamic Republic of Iran should be implemented so as to bring down the Saddam regime and end the war.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,649

LD271725 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Feb 84

[Communique No 1,649 of Joint Staff of Armed forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] At 0710 and 0715 this morning, three MIG-23 enemy planes were hit by the fire of the antiaircraft defense units and the fighter planes of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran and were downed in the southern operational region. At 1417 yesterday, an enemy plane in the operational region in Hajj 'Umran was hit by the fire of our antiaircraft defense units and was downed inside Iraq. In the operational regions of Piranshah, Sar Dasht, and Hajj 'Umran yesterday, the exchange of heavy weapons fire continued and the fire of the victorious combatants of Islam stopped the movement of enemy infantry and motorized units on the Choman-Mustafa road. Also, 90 percent of an enemy base was destroyed and a number of Iraqi soldiers were either killed or wounded. In the region facing Marivan, one of our patrol and reconnaissance groups was sent to enemy defensive positions. They later returned with booty.

In the exchange of fire on the banks of the Arvand Rud, the warriors of the Navy and the courageous Gendarmerie personnel opened fire on enemy positions and, while preventing enemy troop movements, destroyed 1 machine gun, 1 mortar, and 9 foxholes and slit trenches of the aggressors and killed or wounded at least 15 of them.

Yesterday, as a result of fire from enemy long-range weapons on the residential districts of Abadan, 14 houses were demolished and a hotel was set on fire.

During the past 24 hours, military and economic installations in Basra, Mandali, and Khanaqin were shelled by our artillery units.

IRNA Reports on Fighting on Western Front

GF261715 Tehran IRNA in English 1652 GMT 26 Feb 84

[Text] Bakhtaran, Feb. 26, IRNA — Eleven Iraqi troops were killed last night as the Islamic combatants carried out a successful patrol operation against the enemy on one of the western operational axes. A military vehicle was also smashed.

Meanwhile, fire exchanges continued between the two sides with the Iranian defenders holding the upper hand in the Sumar, (Bavaisi) and Darband-i Khan regions of the said fronts during the past 24 hours.

In these operations, five more Iraqi soldiers were killed when the Islamic forces halted the latter's fire, demolishing several enemy group bunkers and dugouts.

Iraqi Missiles Strike Hoveyzeh, Bostan

LD271700 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1644 GMT 27 Feb 84

[Text] Following the missile attack by the Saddamists on the town of Hoveyzeh, this morning the town of Bostan was subjected to a missile attack by the Ba'thist-Zionist regime of Iraq. IRNA reports that the Saddamists fired two 3-meter-long missiles toward Bostan. As a result, a number of the town's residents were wounded.

Arab Villages Near Abadan Shelled

GF271630 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1230 GMT 27 Feb 84

[Text] As a result of heavy long-range artillery fire of the Saddamist mercenaries against Arab-inhabited villages around Abadan, one woman and two young children were martyred.

[Begin unidentified correspondent's recording] The infidel Saddamists, those godless atheists [words indistinct] do not even refrain from shelling mosques, holy shrines, and the Arab villagers who are allegedly being protected by the criminal Saddam. In continuation of the shelling of the resistant city of Abadan and its environs, a mosque was hit during the past 24 hours by the fire of the heavy long-range artillery of the Zionist-Ba'thists which caused some damage. The mosque's keeper was also injured. In the same period, 14 houses were either damaged or destroyed as a result of the daily crimes of the infidel Saddamists. Following these repeated crimes of the Saddamist mercenaries against the Arab-inhabited villages around Abadan, an Arab woman and her two innocent children were martyred in the past 24 hours. The murder of the innocent Arab people by the mercenaries of the Ba'thist Iraqi regime has [words indistinct] and has continued throughout the war.

The Central News Unit of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Abadan. [end recording]

Foreign Ministry Note to International Organizations

LD242257 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 24 Feb 84

[Text] Following the missile attacks on the cities of Khorramabad and Borujerd by the Iraqi Ba'thist-Zionist regime, which resulted in the martyrdom and injury of a large number of our Muslim compatriots, the Foreign Affairs Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran sent separate notes to the UN secretary general, president of the Nonaligned Movement, chairman of the Islamic Conference Organization, and the president of the International Red Cross Committee. These notes, while referring to the crime records of the regime ruling over Baghdad in its attack on civilian areas and innocent people during the imposed war and the recent decision of the Islamic Republic of Iran to retaliate and also the pretence of the Iraqi regime to have stopped attacking civilian areas, emphasized: Now it has become clear to everyone that Saddam's regime never honors its commitments and attacks civilian areas to cover up its disgraceful military defeats on the battlefronts. Therefore, the Islamic Republic of Iran, on the basis of its previous decision, considers retaliation as its legitimate and obvious right and blames the Iraqi regime for the consequences, and expects all the international organizations to realize the depth of the crimes committed by the Iraqi regime against the civilian and innocent people and condemn this act in accordance with their duties.

The recipients of the notes have also been asked to distribute the text of the note among members as a document.

Musavi on Western Media Reporting of War

GF261818 Tehran IRNA in English 1642 GMT 26 Feb 84

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 26, IRNA — Prime Minister Musavi said here today that the Western media downplayed the importance of successes scored by Iran in its current offensive against Iraq in a bid to mar the political effects of such gains.

Prime minister who was speaking after the cabinet ministers session, added that the biased Western press had capitalized on a report that Iranian forces had captured the Iraqi city of Al-Qurnah. They had also reported that following this statement of Iran, the Iraqi regime had taken foreign reporters to the city and had announced that it was not true.

At present stage of war, the enemy through such propaganda ploys has concentrated its efforts to minimize the effects of the Iranian victories.

Furthermore the prime minister referred to a false report by the UNITED PRESS that Iran had captured the Iraqi city of 'Ali al-Gharbi, which was quoted by other news agencies. In this case too the Iraqi regime had taken foreign reporters to the city, after which it had become clear that the city was under Iraqi control.

Obviously this news was false and the reason for sending such reports was to embarass Iran, he added. At present there is a massive psychological warfare in this connection and at no other times have the world mass media been mobilised so massively against the Islamic revolution of Iran and effects of this victorious offensive, he said. This itself, he continued, was an indication of the great deeds of the Islamic forces in warfronts.

Further on the ongoing Khaybar offensive, prime minister said that the operation was launched as a bold tactical move and the Iranian forces have taken the enemy forces by surprise. Whether they want it or not, he said, the Basra-Baghdad road has been cut in several points by the Iranian forces and at present it is in their hands. Despite propaganda of the enemy the Iranian forces maintain their powerful presence there. It is natural that the operations will be continued till crushing of the Saddam regime, he stressed.

On the Iraqi missile attack on the Iranian city of Hoveyzeh, Khuzestan Province, at the early hours of today, the prime minister said that this time Saddam has struck an Arab populated city, which was levelled by the Iraqi forces at the outbreak of the Iraqi imposed war. By attacking this city again, Saddam tried to vent his rage fuelled by his recent defeats.

As for propaganda of Western mass media and their efforts to pave the way for presence of foreign powers in the Persian Gulf, Musavi said that at present rightfulness of the Islamic revolution of Iran has been soundly proved and therefore, the U.S. and its mass media could not deceive the Iranian people and the Muslims of the world.

There is no doubt, he added, the message of the Iranian martyrs had gone beyond the Iranian borders, and its effects could be seen

in Morocco and other places even in the U.S., what matters is the unity of the Iranian people who will curtail hands of any plotter. The U.S. and other Western powers knew it well, he said, that the Iranian nation had the power to attack American interests in any part of the world, if there was to be a plot against Iran.

On the same subject the prime minister added that it was more of a psychological warfare and they did not dare to take any action. Their objective was to distract the Iranian public opinion from the issue of the Iraqi imposed war.

And finally on the future of the Iraqi regime and the possibility of an American engineered coup, he said we believe that the Iraqi Government must be determined by the Iraqi people, it was the right of the Iraqis to determine the future kind of government they wanted and the Islamic Republic of Iran condemned interference of any power in the region, he added.

We are determined to stand by the side of the Iraqi people and with an ever-increasing consciousness and an example of which could be seen in our own country, it is unlikely that any plot would be hatched in Iraq, he said.

Khomeyni Receives Joint Staff Chief 25 Feb

LD251114 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 25 Feb 84

[Text] Brigadier General Qasem 'Ali Zahirnezhad, chief of the Joint Staff of the Islamic Republic Armed Forces, was received this morning by Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The brigadier general briefed the imam on current military issues.

Free Voice of Iran Account

GF261930 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT 26 Feb 84

[Text] According to reports coming from Tehran, the massacre of over 2,000 mobilization and Guards Corps personnel of the Islamic Republic, killed in just one night's raid, has caused a deep rift between the commanders of the Guards Corps and those of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic.

According to our correspondent, quoting informed sources, contrary to the objections of the Armed Forces commanders, the Guards Corps decided to try a night crossing of the Hoveyzeh marsh, using 500 small rubber dinghies. The military commanders, who did not see any value in the operation and considered it tactically dangerous, attempted to stop the operation by warning the guards commanders of the possible results and the dangers the Iraqi forces posed in the region. However, their warnings were not heeded and as a result out of 2,000 Iranian youths sent to the fronts with the bare essentials for battle, 1,500 were killed and over 300 were captured by the Iraqi forces.

According to our correspondent, Qasem 'Ali Zahirnezhad, chief of the Joint Staff of Khomeyni's Armed Forces, met Ruhollah Khomeyni in Jamaran yesterday following the intensification of the disagreements between the guards and military commanders. During the meeting, he informed Khomeyni of the results of the military operations by the guards and mobilization units and the disagreement between the Guards Corps and Armed Forces commanders. There has been no reports so far about possible orders by Khomeyni.

Khomeyni Meets With Families of Martyrs 26 Feb

LD261223 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Feb 84

[Text] Families of martyrs from Khiyav, Sarab, and Kohkiluyeh va Boyer Ahmad met this morning with Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

During this meeting, Mr Mahdi Karrubi, the imam's representative and supervisor of the Martyr's Foundation of the Islamic Revolution, referred to the victorious Khaybar operations — which are continuing over a vast region — and paid tribute to the brave pilots of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran, who, in retaliation for the missile attacks on our country's residential areas, have attacked military and industrial regions in Iraq. Mr Karrubi also offered condolences and congratulations to those families who have given martyrs during the recent missile attacks by the Iraqi criminal regime on our country's residential areas. On behalf of the imam of the nation he thanked and praised the families of the martyrs for their sacrifices. At the conclusion of this meeting, the hope of the world oppressed, Imam Khomeyni, responded to the sentiments expressed by the audience.

Majlis Deputy Speaker Mohammad Hoseyn Musavi-Kho'ini also met this morning with Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Activities of Iraqi Revolutionaries Reported

Al-Hadithah Fire

LD261214 Tehran IRNA in English 0855 GMT 26 Feb 84

[Text] Tehran, Feb, 26, IRNA — A group of Iraqi Muslim mujahideen, the "Martyr Abu Atta Orou," on February 8 set ablaze the Al-Ha'ithah oil refinery and its depots in the east of Iraq. The intensity of the fire was to such extent that it burned for three days.

The information office of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq (SAIRI), said that following this operation by the Iraqi mujahideen, the Iraqi regime arrested dozens of security officials, innocent civilians and also the patrol units controlling the refinery.

Three days later, on the heels of these operations by the Iraqi mujahideen, Saddam executed some of the suspect security and patrol officials.

Meanwhile, some 80 staffers of SAIRI joined the Iranian combatants in the fronts, 70 more of the SAIRI Basij (popular forces), from the Qom branch, as well as other branches will in the near future be dispatched to the warfronts.

Attack in As-Sulaymaniyah

GF280604 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 28 Feb 84

[Text] Iraqi Muslim revolutionaries have attacked two vehicles belonging to the ruling regime in Iraq in the city of As-Sulaymaniyah. All the occupants of the vehicles were wounded or killed.

Paris-Based Group

LD280959 Tehran IRNA in English 0948 GMT 28 Feb 84

[Text] Paris, Feb 28, IRNA — The Islamic association of Iraqis residing in France, following the victorious operations launched by the Islamic combatants in the Val Fajr-6 operations and the liberation of a part of Iraq by Iran sent a message to the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq (SAIRI) in which they announced their readiness for joining the Islamic combatants in the warfronts. The message released here Monday appealed to the Iraqi people to welcome the Islamic strugglers and join them in the effort to topple the Ba'thist regime of Saddam.

The Islamic association in the conclusion of the message, once again expressed its full support for the leadership of (?Ayatollah Khomeyni) and the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Republic of Iraq.

Interior Minister on Afghans, Border, Elections

LD261316 Tehran IRNA in English 1805 GMT 26 Feb 84

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 26 IRNA — Minister of the Interior 'Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri speaking to IRNA Saturday categorically denied the false propaganda allegations concerning the expulsion of Afghans from Iran or forcing Afghans to fight at the war fronts.

Nateq-Nuri said that the ministry issued identity cards for the Afghans residing in Iran in order to prevent the influence of spies among Afghans in Iran, who were working for the East and West. He added there was no need of forcing Afghans to the war fronts while the Iranians were willing to be dispatched there.

Referring to measures the Islamic Republic has taken for controlling the borders of the country he said that Iran has 12,000 km. of sea and land borders which were completely open in the past regime. But after the victory of the revolution in order to prevent any abuses, i.e., importing narcotics, penetration of foreign agents, or the flight of domestic lackey elements, the need for strong control of the borders became necessary.

Concerning the Majlis elections Nateq-Nuri said that the ministry was awaiting official notice from the Council of Guardians, and then the ministry could take the necessary steps for organising the elections.

Public Prosecutor's Offices Renamed

LD191304 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 19 Feb 84

[Text] According to the Public Relations Office of the Prosecutor General, concerning the Islamic Revolution Public Prosecutor's Offices throughout the country, public prosecutor's offices and revolution courts are a part of the Ministry of Justice; following the resignation of Musavi-Tabrizi, former prosecutor general of the Islamic Revolution, and the acceptance of his resignation by the Supreme Judicial Council, all Islamic Revolution Public prosecutor's Offices throughout the country have been brought under the supervision of State Prosecutor General Sane'i, and will continue to operate as such in accordance with a decision reached by the Supreme Judicial Council and on the basis of legal orders.

Consequently, having rescinded the title of the Revolution Prosecutor General, the Islamic Revolution Prosecutor General's Office has been renamed the Public Prosecutor's Office for the Islamic Revolution, and the Central Province's Islamic Revolution Public Prosecutor's Office has been renamed the Islamic Revolution Public Prosecutor's Office of Tehran.

Tudeh Party Trial Begins in Shiraz 22 Feb

GF241240 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1530 GMT 23 Feb 84

[Text] Yesterday afternoon the open trial of 12 members of the traitorous and banned Tudeh Party began in Shiraz. The first session of the trial began with a recitation of a few verses from the holy Koran. Then the text of the bill of indictment was read by Mr Ramazani, public prosecutor of the Islamic Revolution.

Mr Qambari, the shari'a judge of the Islamic Revolution courts in Fars, then made a speech about the treacheries of the hypocrites, the banned Tudeh Party, and other antirevolution minigroups.

Hoseyn Pirzadeh, son of Ja'afarqoli who was in charge of the secret network of the Tudeh Party in the Provinces of Fars, Hormozgan, and Sistan va Baluchestan; and Mahboob Jamshidi, son of Nosratollah, who was in charge of all the provincial committees in the Provinces of Fars, Hormozgan, and Bushehr, began their defense. The session lasted from 1500 to 1900 and further hearings were postponed to future dates.

Accused Listed

GF261924 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1530 GMT 26 Feb 84

[Text] The open trial of members of the traitorous Tudeh Party continued yesterday. According to a report received, yesterday's session of the trial started with a recitation of verses from the holy Koran. Then Mr Ramazani, the Shiraz public prosecutor, read the bill of indictment against the accused, violations of Sections 3 through 9. This was followed by testimony by the accused.

Those on trial are: Ahmad Qotbuddin, member of the underground network of the Tudeh Party; Mahdi Shuffalahi, Mozhgan Sadeqi, and Rahim Afkhami, members of the underground network; Mohammad Jawad; Hamun-al Haqiqat; Nahzat Qoreshi; and Esmat Bostani.

The trial of these Tudeh Party members will resume this afternoon.

Trial Ends 26 Feb

GF271824 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1530 GMT 27 Feb 84

[Text] The final session of the open trial of a group of members of the defunct and traitorous Tudeh Party was held yesterday afternoon.

Following the reading of the indictment of the last of the accused in this session by Mr Ramazani, public and Islamic Revolution prosecutor of Shiraz, the accused began their final defense testimony and after the hearing of the last defense [statement) which was accompanied by much shame and regret, the court announced the end of the proceedings.

In this session which lasted from 1600-1900, Mr Qanbari, the shari'a magistrate and the chief of the Islamic Revolution court, announced the end of the investigation into the charges against the accused and expressed the hope that "we may achieve what is the truth and reality and that we may act on whatever Islam, the Koran, and Islamic injunctions demand by way of truth and justice."